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Proposed Maximum Residue Limit PMRL2013-91

Boscalid

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Under the authority of the *Pest Control Products Act*, Health Canada's Pest Management Regulatory Agency (PMRA) has concluded that the addition of new uses on sunflower seeds and mustard seed (condiment type) to the product label of Lance WDG Fungicide, containing technical grade boscalid, is acceptable. The specific uses approved in Canada are detailed on the label of Lance WDG Fungicide, *Pest Control Products Act* Registration Number 27495.

The evaluation of these boscalid applications indicated that the end-use product has merit and value, and the human health and environmental risks associated with the new uses are acceptable.

Before registering a pesticide for food use in Canada, the PMRA must determine the quantity of residues that are likely to remain in or on the food when the pesticide is used according to label directions and that such residues will not be a concern to human health. This quantity is then legally established as a maximum residue limit (MRL). An MRL applies to the identified raw agricultural food commodity as well as to any processed food product that contains it, except where separate MRLs are specified for the raw agricultural commodity and a processed product made from it.

Consultation on the proposed MRLs for boscalid is being conducted via this document (see Next Steps, the last section of this document). A summary of the field trial data used to support the proposed MRLs can be found in appendix I.

To comply with Canada's international trade obligations, consultation on the proposed MRLs is also being conducted internationally by notifying the World Trade Organization, as coordinated by the Standards Council of Canada.

The proposed MRLs, to replace or be added to the MRLs already established for boscalid, are as follows.

Table 1 Proposed Maximum Residue Limits for Boscalid

Common Name	Residue Definition	MRL (ppm)	Food Commodity
Boscalid	2-chloro-*N*-(4'-chloro[1,1'-biphenyl]-2-yl)-3-pyridinecarboxamide	3.5	Mustard seeds (condiment type)
		1.6 [a]	Sunflower Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 20B)

ppm = parts per million

[a] Proposed to revise the existing 0.6 ppm MRL for residues of boscalid in/on safflower seeds and sunflower seeds (EMRL2008-02).

MRLs are proposed for each commodity included in the listed crop groupings in accordance with the Residue Chemistry Crop Groups webpage in the Pesticides and Pest Management section of Health Canada's website.

MRLs established in Canada may be found using the Maximum Residue Limit Database on the Maximum Residue Limits for Pesticides webpage. The database allows users to search for established MRLs, regulated under the *Pest Control Products Act*, both for pesticides or for food commodities.

International Situation and Trade Implications

MRLs may vary from one country to another for a number of reasons, including differences in pesticide use patterns and the locations of the field crop trials used to generate residue chemistry data.

Table 2 compares the MRLs proposed for boscalid in Canada with corresponding American tolerances and Codex MRLs[1]. American tolerances are listed in the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, 40 CFR Part 180, by pesticide. A listing of established Codex MRLs is available on the Codex Alimentarius Pesticide Residues in Food website, by pesticide or commodity.

Table 2 Comparison of Canadian MRLs, American Tolerances and Codex MRLs (where different)

Food Commodity	Canadian MRLs (ppm)	American Tolerances (ppm)	Codex MRL (ppm)
Sunflower Subgroup (Crop Subgroup 20B)	1.6	0.6 (Sunflower, seed)	1.0 (Oilseed)

Next Steps

The PMRA invites the public to submit written comments on the proposed MRLs for boscalid up to 75 days from the date of publication of this document. Please forward your comments to Publications (see the contact information on the cover page of this document). The PMRA will consider all comments received before making a final decision on the proposed MRLs. Comments received will be addressed in a separate document linked to this PMRL. The established MRLs will be legally in effect as of the date that they are entered into the Maximum Residue Limit Database.

[1] The Codex Alimentarius Commission is an international organization under the auspices of the United Nations that develops international food standards, including MRLs.

Appendix I

Summary of Field Trial Data Used to Support the Proposed MRLs

Residue data from field trials conducted in Canada and the United States were reviewed and residue data on file were reassessed to support the domestic use of Lance WDG Fungicide on sunflower seeds. Previously reviewed canola data on file were reassessed in the framework of this petition to support the domestic use of Lance WDG Fungicide on mustard seeds (condiment type). Boscalid was applied at the proposed rate, or at exaggerated rates, to sunflowers and canola, which were harvested according to label directions. In addition, a processing study in treated sunflower was reassessed to determine the potential for concentration of residues of boscalid into processed commodities.

Maximum Residue Limits

The recommendation for a maximum residue limit (MRL) for boscalid in/on mustard seeds (condiment type) was based upon previously reviewed canola residue field trial data on file in which canola was treated at exaggerated rates and harvested according to label directions.

The recommendation for a maximum residue limit (MRL) for boscalid in/on crops in the Sunflower Subgroup was based upon the field trial data for sunflowers, guidance provided in PRO2005-04, *Guidance for Setting Pesticide Maximum Residue Limits Based on Field Trial Data*, and the North American Free Trade Agreement calculator as the MRL statistical methodology. Residues in processed sunflower commodities will be covered by the MRL proposed for the raw agricultural commodity.

TABLE A1 Summary of Field Trial Used to Support Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs)

Commodity	Application Method/ Total Application Rate (g a.i./ha)	PHI (days)	Residues (ppm)	
			Min	Max
Sunflower seeds	Postemergent/ 884–924	20–21	<0.05	0.88
Canola	Foliar/ 842–918	19–23	0.136	3.42

PHI = preharvest interval; ppm = parts per million

Following the review of all available data, an MRL of 3.5 ppm and 1.6 ppm is recommended to cover residues of boscalid in mustard seeds (condiment type) and crops in the Sunflower Subgroup, respectively. Residues of boscalid in these commodities at the proposed MRLs will not pose an unacceptable risk to any segment of the population, including infants, children, adults and seniors.